

"We Mustn't Go Into the Gutter for Our Popular Music"---Masses Can Appreciate Much Better Music than Is Ordinarily Given Them --- Herbert Calls "Parsifal" a Bluff, and Received Here.

OPULAR music," defined Victor Herbert, "is the kind you want to whistle but can't the first time you hear it. If you could whistle it the first time you tried it wouldn't be popular music for long. It would die an early death of unpopularity. That's the difference between popular and

cheap music." And Mr. Herbert smiled his genial, gleaming, teethy smile as though to add, "Hope my answer will answer."

question than Mr. Herbert. That his music is truly popular was evidenced by the veritable saengerfest which characterized the return of "Babes in Toyland" to the Majestic Theatre on Monday. The audience not only sat and listened; it sat and hummed; hummed when the orchestra under Mr. Herbert's affectionate guardianship

played a medley of his charming airs, hummed when him. lovely but larger Bessie Wynn took "Toyland" on her tongue, and clicked through "that sum" with the Widow coin. Piper's unmathematical children. The proof of popularity, like that of the plum pudding, was in the eatingand that audience surely did "eat" Mr. Herbert's delect-

able music.

"Yes, they did hum, didn't they?" he chuckled. "It's nice to have an audience that's a real hummer. So much nicer than having an audience that makes you feel it is sitting there with a brick behind its back. Give an audience what it wants and it will give you what you want. An audience, given half a chance, is an awfully good fellow, especially a New York audience. And, too, the good cided, and so he gave them 'Parsifal.' There is, of course, will of a New York audience follows you out of town and makes you feel that a friend in need is a friend indeed. The attitude of an out-of-town audience is influenced wonderfully by the magic of a New York indorsement. a great man. All through it are signs of impotence and It's a certain passport to favor."

not only know whether the light musical entertainmen peculiar to Broadway is what it should be, but they can tell at first glance and sound whether the Walter or the Eva is doing 'The Meistersinger' justice, and whether Tristan and Isolde are living up to traditions."

THEATRE

"But the plain people who whistle, what do you know

about them?" I asked.

"I know them not only in the theatre, but in the street," he answered. "I'm often stopped in the street by some fellow who will say, 'I beg your pardon, Mr. Believes It Will Die in Bay- by some fellow who will say, I beg your pa don, and. reuth of the Blow It Has toyland, little girl and boyland?'-now, that's s far as I can get. I thought I had it, but it's given me e slip." "And you hum the rest of it for him?"

"Yes, why not? If he wants to get it, I'm glad to be

able to help him." "Strangers do this?"

"Yes, strangers to me, but they know me by sight, suppose, and that's sufficient, isn't it? Why shouldn't they speak to me? I hope there's nothing about me to frighten people."

Evidently not. In the cafe where we were sitting every newsboy who stole through the door made straight for the big, good-natured looking chap and was given a I don't know any one more qualified to answer such a fatherly pat on the head and a "Yes, dear," or "No. dear." when he piped "Paper, sir?" Salvation Army lassies, too, kept him plunging into his pockets.

> "Why, you were here just a minute ago," he protested to one blue-bonneted solicitor who was a living contradiction of the amiable fiction that "salvation is free."

"That was another one," Sister So-and-So informed

"Lbeg your pardon," he apologized, fishing for another

happy lassie had gone jingling on her way, "musical works seem to have a mistaken popu-This was the case with 'Parsifal.' What do I think of it? I think it was a bluff. I believe with

Luther Long, who gave us "The Darling

Jimmy Huneker that Wagner wrote it because he feared of the Gods," and it promises to be of Jimmy Huneker that Wagner wrote it because he feared Bayreuth was threatened with the danger of being robbed of its pilgrims by Oberammergau. 'If they want mysticism, I will give them mysticism,' he probably decided, and so he gave them 'Parsifal.' There is, of course, some beautiful music in 'Parsifal.' There is, of course, some beautiful music in 'Parsifal.' the prelude and 'The Good Friday Spell,' for instance. To be sure, Wagner was a great man, but 'Parsifal' is not the great work of a great man, All through it are signs of impotence and the necessity the composer was under to repeatedly borrow from himself. And as for the character, if Jesus Christ was anything like Parsifal I'm glad I never met him. But I am sure he wasn't, for Ohrist, first of all, was COMPOSER mustn't go down into the gutter for Christ was anything like Parsifal I'm glad I never met popular music," said the canny Victor. "The him, But I am sure he wasn't, for Christ, first of all, was masses, as they are called, can appreciate much a man. Americans were discerning enough to see through better music than they're generally given credit for. They | Wagner's bluff, and I believe the death-blow which 'Par-

as in music, there must be 'color,' there must be an indefinable something behind it all. We have no national dance may give music a wicked meaning, but music in music. We have no folk songs. We have no picturesque itself can never be guilty of evil." peasants. Our peasants are farmers with whiskers. I'm

"All rot!" was the impatient reply. "Words or

CHARLES DARNTON.

New Plays by Shaw, Belasco and Thomas Next Week New plays by Shaw, Belasco and York introduction at the Lyric Theatre T. Haines in "Once Upon a Time, Thomas and the revival of a on next Saturday night. Sam H. Berkeley Lyreum; "Hispiedy Play

Thomas and the revival of a Henry Arthur Jones comedy, not Shubert makes the production and R. Henry Arthur Jones comedy, not Shubert makes the production and R. Henry Arthur Jones comedy, not Shubert makes the production and R. Henry Arthur Jones comedy, not Shubert makes the production and R. Henry Arthur Jones comedy, not the season. Hubert makes the production and R. Hubert makes the production at the Lyric Theatre on next, Saturday night. Sam H. Julia Banderson, Hubert Wilke, Frank Rushworth, Douglas Fairbanks and George Beban, to mention an addition to the current list of musical comedies, will make next week in the theatres one of the most important of the season.
On Monday night at the Garrick

Theatre Arnold Daly, now a Liebler Theatre Arnold Daly, now a Liebler star, will come forward as the impecunious dentist in George Bernard Shaw's mixture of wit and sarcasm called "You Never Can Tell." Drina de Wolfe will be Miss Clandon; Mabel Taliaferro, Dolly; Jeffrys Lewis, Mrs. Clandon; George Farren, Mr. Crampton; William H. Thompson, Mr. McComas; John Findlay, the diplomatic walter William; Harry Harwood, Mr. Bohun, and Sumner Gard, Philip Clandon.

On the same night Sir Charles Wyndham and Miss Mary Moore will begin

ham and Miss Mary Moore will begin their ninth week at the New Lyceum Theatre with a revival of "The Case of Theatre with a revival of "The Case of Rebellious Susan." which was seen at the old Lyceum Theatre in 1834. This is one of the most entertaining of Henry Arthur Jones's comedies, and in it Mr. Wyndham and Miss Moore created the roles of Sir Richard Kato and Lady Susan Harabin. Sir Richard is the wise uncle of Lady Susan, who tries to tell her that she is not as wilful as she pretends to be.

Augustus Themas's latest comedy, which will be launched by Charles

which will be launched by Charles Frohman at the Savoy Theatre on Wednesday evening, is named "Mrs. Leffingwell's Boots." The boots were Leffingwell's Boots." The boots were once found in a young architect's room at Bar Harbor, where they were placed by a mischief-maker, and when this same gentleman and Mrs. Leffingwell are later driven by a storm into the same house at Larchmont the lady's husband has a fresh attack of jealousy and new complications occur. Fay Davis returns to the stage in this play, and others in the company are Jessie Busley, Margaret Illington, Dorothy Hammond, William Courtenay, Vincent Serrano, Ernest Lawford and J. H. Barnes.

"Adrea" is the title of the play in which Mrs. Carter will be seen at the Belasco Theatre on Wednesday evening. It is by David Belasco and John

Jefferson de Angelis is the star of Fantana," a musical comedy of Ja ese setting which will have

David Warfield will move to the Bijou with "The Music Master" on Monday

The Klaw & Erlanger Comedy Com pany begins its third week at the Liberty Theatre in John J. McNaily's musical play "In Newport" Monday evening with the introduction of a new

impany, which includes Eddie Leonbegin a week's engagement at the Grand Opera-House on Monday

James K. Hackett, in "The Fortunes of the King," will move to the Har-lem Opera-House.
"At the Old Cross-Roads" will be "At the Old Cross-Roads" will be
at the American for a week.
Joe Weich in "Cohen's Luck" is announced for the West End Theatre.
David Higgins will be seen in "His
Last Dollar" at the Metropolis.
The Third Avenue Theatre will have
"A Little Outcast."
"A Wite's Seoret" will be told at
the Star.
"Tracked Around the World" will
travel down to the Windsor. "Tracked Around
ravel down to the Windson.
Rose St-lell heads the London
Will be at the Gotham.
Will be at the Gotham.
Will though the London
Rose Star.

The London
Rose Star.

"Tracked Around
Rose Star.

"The London
Atlen
Atlen will be at the Gotham.
Continuing at leading theatres will be Francis Wilson in "Cousin B lly."
Criterion: Maude Adams in "The Little Minister," Empire; Viola Allen in "The Winter's Tale," Knickerbooker Fritzi Scheff in "Fatinitza." Broadway; Lillian Russell in "Lady Teazle," Casino; the Klaw and Erlanger Comedy Company in "In Newport," Liberty: "Home Folks." New York; "Common Sense Bracket." Fourteenth Street Theatre; Mrs. Flake in "Leah Kleschan," Manhattan Theatre; Ethel Barrymore in "Sunday." Hudson; "Humoty Duinpty." New Amsterdam; "The Sho Gun," Wallack's: "The College Widow," Garden; "It Happened in Nordend." Lew Fields's Theatre; Bohen

VAUDEVILLE OFFERINGS. At Hammerstein's next week the b will include Henry E. Dixey and com-pany, the Imperial Japanese Guards, Barney Fagan and Henrietta Byron, the

evening with the introduction of a new feature called a "Gilbert and Sullivan Review," arranged by Frederick Solomon, This review will include five operas — "The Mikado," "Jointhe," "Pirates of Pensance," "Pattence" and "Pinafore." Peter F. Dailey will be the Mikado; Fay Tempiston, Little Buttercup; Virginia Earle, Josephine; Joe Coyne, Bunthorne; Lee Harrison, Lord Chancellor, and Charles McDonald, Dick Deadeys.

The Murray Hill Theatre opens its doors to-night under the management of William T. Keogh, with Dan Mc-avoy in "His Honor the Mayor of the Bowery." which will remain the attraction next week.

Edward Terry and his English company, at the Princes, will, beginning to-night, be seen in Pinero's "George Princes and his minstrel George Princes and his minstrel Theatre. The bill will also include R. G. Knowles, Will H. Murphy and Blanche

Hayes and Roberts: Loulair and Bowen, Howard and North, Russell and Buckley, and Ecops and Lorette.

Tony Pastor will offer Callahan and Mack, Wessen, Walters and Wessin, Dixon and Holmes, McDonald and Huntington, the Great Marinellas, the Three Madcaps, and many others.

John B. Burke returns to Huber's Museum with his whree-act comedy "Tangled Relations."

There will be additions to the "World in Wax" at the Eden Musee. IN BROOKLYN.

Henry W. Savage's production 'Parsifal' in English will be offered the Montauk Theatre.

Pain Overthe Eyes

Headache and Catarrh Relieved in 10 minutes.

Dr. Agnow's Cintment scothes all skin discusos. 35 Cents, 18

id by Wm. S. Rockey, Sith St. and 5th Av

AMUSEMENTS Huber's 147H Museum

A Matines Every Day. CLOSES TO-NIGHT. MADISON SQUARE GARDEN.
6th Annual Show by N. Y. Poultry, Pigeo
ind Pet Stock Association (Ltd.), Solendi
(ow), pretty pigeons, little chicks, sun
dirds, rabbits and cavies.
ADMISSION, Soc. CHILDREN, 25c.
Open 9 A. M. to 10.50 P. M.

WEBER & ZIEGFELD ALL Higgledy-Piggledy. College Widower

PROCTOR'S "BIG FOUR

PASTOR'S ATH ST. BOAT AD AV SYDNEY DEANE & CO., 3 KEATO Laroy & Woodford. Findlay & Bu BIG SPOW THIS DAY.

ATLANTIC GARDEN.
Japanese Troupe, Milaco & Idelene, Tre
Lillian Franklin. Cinematograph, Re
Ledv Orchestra. MAY IRWIN Tol. 1980 Med. BIJOI

Sves. S.25. Last Mat. To-day 2.20. MRS. RLACK IS BACK. ...Jan.9—Warfled in "The Music Mas Manhailan Byaya sad St. Eye MRS. FISKE Leah Kleschna Grand—Lulu Glaser

Next Week, Primrose Minstrels.

ONEW Lax av., 107th st. To-Day 2.1.
THOMAS E. SHEA, To-Nights.1.
Next Week, "A WIFE'S SECRET." O-NIGHT The Mayor of the Bowe

Maude Adams 3 CRITERION THEATRE 4555 Francis Wilson

MAJESTIC Matines BARES IN West End Hise's Merry B

Theatre, 42 st. bet ROBT. T. HAINES METROPOLIS PV 815 MA

1424 St. & 5d av. DOWN T. Next Week, David Higgins in His AMERICAN EVAS. 15. Mat. To-day. To-m'w Night, TED MARKS BIG O Next W's, "AT THE OLD CROSS Keith's B'way Talk of New Prices 250 and

WINDSOR MOST THE CHILD W BROAD WAY THEM 18. 8.20. Met. Pat. B. Brway & 41st at Fritzi Scheff Patible BELASCO Matines WARFIEL

BROOKLYN AMUSEMENTE MONTAUK SUTHERN & JULIA MAI To Night Last this Runes & M WEEK Jan. 9. Mars. WED &